George Lardner
Newsroom
Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Wash., D.C. 20005

5/27/78

Dear George,

I'm rushing with this in the event someone stops off and can mail it. No, not to save the pennies. To speed it. If I am not clear please phone me.

In today's mail I received two things I'll be sending you as soon as my wife gets to running the copying machine. One is a letter by John Ray that may interest you, the other two Memphis stories I am sure will. I'll probably include a letter to a Memphis source, from whom I received the stories on Lane having become Gracie Waldein(Stephens') guardian, with all the best Lane-type speeches. Hysterical.

Also, I saw no story on the release of King materials to Halperin. This is why I'M rushing. If you kept any wire copy or any news accounts I'd like them very much. Also and release Halperin made. Not interested in Halperin. Interested in what this means in FOIA when I have not received it even with a case in court and when Jim should have received it inresponse to a case of his. Of course if you have copies of the record, they also could make valuable attachments to an affidavit, my purpose in this. To inform the court(s).

For whatever our opinion is worth to you the Carter administration's behavior in these matters Jim and I believe are important to blacks may well kick back and be politically harmful. It should be. The behavior is very bad.

Aside from vindictiveness, which is not an exemption to FOIA, the only apparent purpose served in what amounts to an exclusive release to Halperin of what I've been suing for is to kill any use other than he would make. It is no reflection on Halperin to say he is not a subject expert. Even his friend Lane isn't.

By contrast my experise is good enough to prove negatives against FBI agents and DJ lawyers. I'm toward the end of the draft of another affidavit in which I do this again. In this I'm looking also toward the possibility of direct confrontation between me and all of them in one or both of two courts. I don't mean I'm asking for it. I mean it may eventuate. If it does I'll not be looking for any way out.

I don't know why the Post has cooled on the assassinations committee story, especially not after it dedicated itself to rehabilitating Joe McCarthy. I think that if it had not cooled after Lane started the CIA-front stuff the committee would not now exist - and should not.

It is because the Post has done nothing when there was what I regard as news that I'm writing my source about what under other conditions I'd wait to see if you are interested in, what Lane is now open to. I think it would make a great mag. piece and could be placed if the Post did not care for it. Some of this will become clear in the letter to my source. The rest has to do with a Friday appearance by Larry Flynt, from the hospital bed live, on ABC's Good Morning America. I've heard a tape by phone. The tape is in the mail to me. He makes a big thing of his "Gemstone file" on the JFK and maybe MLK assassination. It is an incredible residue of an overflown sewer. I have a copy, from one to whom Flynt gave it before Flynt was shot.

Someone reading it and preparing questions for Lane about it would have some fun. Lane can't possibly - reasonably at least - agree with it. If he does not he has put the hat on his current teat. If he does he makes a gargantuan fool of himself.

Can you imagine Lane saddling himself with poor sick and broke and broken Gracie for the rest of her life?

Sincerely,